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Bike the Barns III: Ride to Support Local Food, Farmers, and Families in Need

MADISON-Bike the Barns, the Madison Area Community Supported Agriculture Coalition's (MACSAC) third annual Partner Shares Fundraiser ride will be held Saturday, September 12, 2009. This unique bike tour will take riders to community supported agriculture and family farms around south-central Wisconsin in support of MACSAC's Partner Shares Program, a community initiative to reduce hunger, improve nutrition and support local farmers.

The ride will be fueled with gourmet food grown by local farmers prepared by local chefs, including breakfast, snacks, and lunch, all included in the \$55 registration fee. Limited lunch only tickets are available for just \$25. Bike the Barns is a fantastic way to roll through the country side, visit local farms, and support a great cause.

Jane de Broux, BTB rider '07 &'08 said, "The bicycling was fun, but I really did it for the fabulous food and the chance to support local farms."

All proceeds will support the Madison Area Community Supported Agriculture Coalition's (MACSAC) Partner Shares Program. Since the program's inception in 1997, it has increased access to local food by connecting more than 3,000 low-income households with over 100,000 lbs of fresh, local food and paying the way for lasting connections between families and farms.

Kiera Mulvey, MACSAC Director said, "Knowing your farmer and where your food comes from is a powerful way to make an impact on the vitality of your community, health, and local economy." Bike the Barns III riders will travel a route that most recreational cyclists can comfortably ride. The full ride is approximately 60 miles; riders can also arrange their own transportation back from lunch for a shorter ride.

MACSAC is committed to creating a sustainable, just and locally based food system by promoting and supporting CSA farms and farm members. This year more than 12,000 people will receive local, organically grown foods through membership in one of MACSAC's 35 member farms.

For more information on this event our farms and programs visit the website: www.macsac.org. ###